

The Polk County Observer

VOL. 27 (THE HOME PAPER) DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1915. (TWICE-A-WEEK) NO. 57

EXAMINES THE BRIDGE

EXPERT DECLARES STRUCTURE OVER WILLAMETTE UNSAFE

Prohibition of Vehicles Such As Now Make Daily Use of Bridge Recommended By Holmes.

The inter-county bridge across the Willamette river at Salem is unsafe to travel and traffic thereon should be prohibited, according to a report of Howard W. Holmes, assistant state engineer, and a bridge expert. The structure has outlived all practical usefulness, and should be condemned without further delay, says the engineer after having made an exhaustive examination of its physical condition. The principal feature of the report refers to the deterioration of the metal at the connections, which has depreciated so that the bridge is in danger when carrying heavy loads. With the report of the engineer it looks as though Polk and Marion counties would be compelled to join in the construction of the proposed new bridge, the estimated cost of which is around \$250,000, although Polk is desirous of evading any unnecessary expense, which would be included in the forthcoming budget. The report of the engineer in detail is as follows:

Top Chords—These members are built up of plates and angles with double lacing on the lower side. Considerable deterioration has taken place throughout these members, particularly at the connections, where rust pits greater than one-sixteenth inch in depth were noted. Water has also percolated between the splice plates, which, originally, had not been brought to a proper bearing fit, causing rust and scale which now is fully one-eighth inch in depth. Between connecting joints, the metal is in a fair state of preservation, particularly considering the apparent lack of maintenance during the early life of the structure. Generally the reduction of a sectional area is not over 5 per cent of the original section. At the connections, however, the reduction in area of effective metal may be considered as high as 10 per cent. A few cases were noted where the metal had deteriorated to the extent of 20 per cent of the original area.

The principal weakness in the top chords is that caused by excessive sag or bending at the third and fifth panel points from each shoe, this deflection varying from one to two inches. A deflection from one-fourth to three-fourths was also noted at mid-section and directly over the sub-posts. This bending is accompanied by a slight deflection in the subvertical located directly above the star connections. The bending above referred to could be slightly remedied by the adjustable counters, but as the trouble is caused primarily by excessive loading which, undoubtedly, has caused severe stress in the extreme outer fibers of the metal, the adjustment mentioned would afford only uncertain and temporary relief, with reference to the top chords, under regular traffic conditions.

Bottom Chords and Web-Members.—The bottom chords and web-members in both spans are fairly well preserved excepting in the immediate vicinity of the connections, where rust pits and a general reduction of about 15 per cent in the original effective area of metal was observed. All intermediate and end posts were found to be badly rusted below the floor level. Five of the main end posts and the plates connecting them to the shoe, as well as the shoes themselves, show a large reduction in area of metal due to excessive rust.

Sub-posts which tend to support and maintain the top chord in line show considerable deflection and clearly indicate that they are carrying greater loads than that for which they were originally designed. As an indication of the deteriorated condition of the end posts and other members above mentioned, it may be of interest to state that in determining the depth of rust and scale on the main end posts a wire nail was inadvertently driven, without effort, through the metal with the aid of a common clawhammer.

Lateral and Wind Bracing.—The top lateral system was found to be in good condition and well adjusted, although they offer only small resistance, extending as they do, over two panel lengths. All wind bracing members are in fair condition, excepting at their connections, which latter show a marked depreciation in original strength.

The bottom lateral system is entirely out of adjustment and the connecting plates at the shoes are almost rusted away. It was found that the lateral connections at the end of floor beams in both spans are held in position by an 8x8 inch timber on top of the floor beam. As this timber is shorter than the length required, the connections have shifted toward the center of the bridge, resulting in a sag of from three to four inches at the center of the lateral rods in question.

Approaches.—The timber trestle ap-

proach at the east end of the bridge was found to be in good condition. The west approach has almost outlived its usefulness. Many of the timber piles were found to be badly decayed at the ground line. However, with a special amount of repair work and replacing certain timber joists which are now broken, this portion of the structure may be serviceable for another year, providing traffic movement is maintained under strict control.

General—The examination made shows that all the metal work has deteriorated and the metal at the connections has depreciated to such an extent that the structure cannot be depended upon to safely carry the loads now imposed upon it. This condition is further emphasized by the fact that certain plates connecting the lower laterals and shoes have rusted to such an extent as to almost make the passage of traffic over the structure somewhat venturesome and hazardous.

The expansion rollers under the shoe are unusually small for spans of the length of those in question and have become locked by corrosion to the shoes, causing, under the influence of temperature changes, additional tension stresses in the already overstressed bottom chord. This additional stress is somewhat indeterminate (Continued on last page)

HEROISM HAS REWARD

VETERAN OF CIVIL WAR RECOGNIZED BY UNCLE SAM.

Harrison Rhodes Passing Declining Years of An Eventful Life on Rickreall Farm.

Harrison J. Rhodes of Rickreall, who on Monday last received a check from the national government for \$300 pension, this sum having accumulated since he made application, and an allowance of \$21 per month during his lifetime, lives alone on a ranch, his wife having departed this life some years ago. During the earlier days of the war he served with an Iowa cavalry, but was enlisted in spy service by Governor Kirkwood of Missouri. He was paid in cash, or by checks sent to Mrs. Rhodes, and consequently it was with some difficulty that he established his right to a pension, having received no discharge at the close of the war. The government requires that evidence showing three months service shall be presented before a pension shall be granted, but this Mr. Rhodes did not have, but nevertheless through Congressman Hawley's efforts the pension was forthcoming after several months of investigation.

Although Mr. Rhodes is in his eighty-first year he is hale and strong for one of his years. The keen vision which he still retains is shown from the fact that recently he shot and killed a rabbit with a pistol at a distance of seventy-five yards. During his service in the Missouri country as a union spy he was not infrequently called upon to use his trusty weapon for his own preservation, and it is said that he made good use of it on divers occasions. He posed as a peddler, and as such invaded confederate lines at will, taking chances of detection and speedy death, but he faltered not in his mission, and gained much valuable information for the northern army. He was the mark of bullets, but escaped without having been wounded. Never did he carry upon his person documents of any kind that might reveal his identity to hostile bands. Sometimes he appeared among the confederates as a preacher, and on these occasions he would appeal to those around him to accept the gospel and be saved.

Following the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy, Mr. Rhodes acted under President Dole as chief of the secret service police, and there made an enviable record for himself and his government. His children are long since grown to manhood and womanhood, and are scattered throughout the United States, while this heroic veteran is passing the evening of an eventful life practically alone in the rural realm near the village of Rickreall, at last rewarded in a measure for the part he played in preserving the union.

SLATON FINED FOR TRESPASS.

Salem Barber Pleads Guilty to Charge by Frank Farmer.

O. S. Slaton, a barber from Salem, paid a fine of \$25 and justice court costs for trespassing on the land of Frank Farmer. Farmer complained against the tonsorial artist not so much for trespass as for the assault that the man made when the land owner accosted him. Slaton was arrested late Tuesday afternoon by Sheriff Orr and requested postponement of hearing in his case until Attorney John McNary concluded a circuit court trial in which he was engaged. Slaton wanted to plead not guilty, but when McNary heard the evidence he advised the barber to enter a plea of guilty. Justice Holman levied the prescribed fine and this was guaranteed by Mr. McNary.

DECISION IS NOT GIVEN

TESTIMONY IN INDEPENDENCE INJUNCTION CASE.

Judge Belt Goes Fishing—Will Render Decision in Important Case Sometime Next Week.

The injunction case, entitled Hart versus the city of Independence and relating to the changing of street lines within the limits of that city, has been taken under advisement by Circuit Judge Belt and he will probably render a decision sometime next week. The case came up in the circuit court early in the week, with a large audience of Independence people, and it took several days to present the great amount of testimony in the matter. Expert witnesses were summoned and property owners and city authorities were on the stand at different times. The county surveyor, who established new lines, thus making it necessary for property lines to be moved back had not the injunction been filed, was carefully questioned by John McNary of Salem, the attorney for Hart, and by B. F. Swope, city attorney of Independence.

The old street has been established for many years, fences have been built and property titles established and re-established. In the survey made by the county surveyor the lines were moved several feet and property owners were requested to accommodate themselves to the new conditions. It stirred up considerable interest among the residents on the property affected and created much attention from others. When Judge Belt left for Newport yesterday he said he would probably be ready to hand down an opinion soon after his return.

Judge Belt went to Independence early in the week to look over the road in question and to investigate conditions, that he could be in a better position to render a decision. During the progress of the hearing a great number of Independence people whose property is effected by the proposed line change made an interested audience. The property owners, who are behind the injunction, seem to have the sympathy of the people of the city.

Variety Store Changes Owners.

The Ash variety store on Main street has changed hands, John Voth being the new owner. Mr. Voth was preparing to leave for Oklahoma last week when the purchase of the Ash store suggested itself to him. The consideration was part in cash and part in property owned by Voth in Oklahoma. Mr. Voth will run the store along the same general lines as maintained under the management of Mr. Ash. Mr. Voth has taken charge of the store and Mr. Ash has made no definite plans for the future. He expects, however, to remain in Dallas this winter.

Church Nearly Ready.

The renovated, painted and electric lighted Baptist church will be a delight and a surprise to the members of that congregation when they assemble for worship on Sunday morning. Mr. Jackman, a new resident in Dallas, did the painting and decorating and Fred West had charge of the lighting.

MUST FURNISH LISTS

NEW LAW IMPOSES FURTHER DUTY UPON COUNTY CLERKS.

Names of Voters in Each Precinct to Be in Hands of Election Board for Reference.

Immediately prior to the next election County Clerk Asa Robinson must furnish the election boards, of the county with the names of voters in their respective precincts, and every other clerk within the state must do likewise, according to Attorney General Brown, who rendered an opinion on the subject by request last Tuesday. The opinion is the attorney general's interpretation of chapter 299 of the session laws of 1915. The act is an amendment to the old law although the old law relating to voters' lists was re-enacted by the last legislature in passing a bill cutting down the number of election judges. Attorney General Brown says that the intention of the legislature was down the number of election judges, and that the re-enacted provisions are superfluous.

Chapter 225 of the session laws makes provision for the permanent registration of voters and it also makes provision that the election boards be furnished with a list of voters, but the attorney general holds that chapter 299 governs because the primary intent of chapter 225 is to provide for permanent registration and the list provided for in chapter 299 contains more columns and is more complete in every respect.

LOAN IS MADE BY CLUB

FAIR BOARD GETS ADVANCE FROM COMMERCIAL CLUB.

Matter of Helping to Lift Mortgages Discussed at Meeting of Club. Directors Meet.

Although the county fair took in more money this year than it did last year by appropriations, donations and fees, a much larger amount was spent this year in preparation and the purchasing of premiums and other expense. It was necessary for the fair board to borrow \$500 from the Dallas Commercial club at the regular meeting of that organization on Wednesday evening. H. L. Fenton, retiring president of the fair board, appeared at the meeting to request the advance from the club treasury until the first county appropriation is made. The precedent in this matter was established last year when the club advanced the fair board until its own funds were available. Other business of the club was of a routine nature. A proposal was made by W. L. Soehren to interest some capable person in the proposition of taking over the Dallas Brick & Tile company, with the aid of the Commercial club, and operate the plant as one of the city's important manufacturing. This matter was brought to the attention of Mr. Soehren by holders of mortgages against the plant and it will probably come up for further discussion at another time.

The meeting of the board of directors of the club was just before the regular club meeting and it was at the first meeting that the matter of the loan was disposed of. F. E. Davis spoke briefly regarding the businessmen's mass meeting at the W. O. W. hall tonight, and announced that A. L. Fisher of Albany would be the speaker at that time in the interest of market and sales day plans. A letter, similar to dozens that are received by the secretary from so-called community builders, was read and Mr. Loophary was instructed to take up with this gentleman the details of expense involved in a trip to Dallas with a view to suggesting ways and means to bolster up the club. J. B. Craven presided at the meeting of the board of directors and N. L. Guy, vice-president, held the gavel at the regular club meeting.

LEVI GILLAM BURIED TUESDAY.

Pioneer of 1852 Survived By Two Sons Living in Polk County.

The body of Levi Gillam, a Polk county pioneer, was laid in its final resting place at McMinnville on Tuesday. Mr. Gillam came to this country in 1852 and was 83 years old when he passed away at the home of his son near Perrydale. He was the father of a number of children, of which Elmer Gillam and Henry Gillam are the only ones remaining in Polk county. Other sons and daughters live in Dayton, McMinnville and Washington state.

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Staffin, who were neighbors of Mr. Gillam in the east, when the lamented pioneer removed from Oregon to live in the east for several years, attended the funeral at McMinnville.

DALLAS TO PLAY MUTES

MUTE SCHOOL TEAM WILL CONNEXT WITH DALLAS HIGH.

Fast Game Promised on Local Gridiron Tomorrow Afternoon—Both Teams Well Prepared.

The Mute school football team will pit its gridiron generalship and its muscle against the Dallas high school brigade on the high school field at 2:30 tomorrow afternoon, and if the local boys are to uphold the record they established last year in not sustaining defeat on home ground, they will have to play a good game against the fast Mute team. Every member of the team is aware of this fact and the last few practice nights this week were spent in the stiffest workout the team has had this year. Coach Clarence Rudder is in charge of the boys, his fellow worker, Jim French, being in Portland, and he believes the team will be very materially better than it was last Saturday when it defeated the Silverton high school team. The Mute school aggregation matches very well with the Dallas team as to weight and the first game on the home gridiron will be decided by the speed and execution shown. Last year the Dallas boys played the merry tune of defeat to the Mutes, but they are taking no stock in past performances and expect if they win to do so by hard fighting.

Practically the same team as that which appeared against Silverton will line up against the deaf and dumb lads here tomorrow. But Coach Rudder will change the players as he sees fit after the game is started and the work of the boys becomes apparent. Neither Rudder nor his team cherish any hope of mounting up such a score against the Mutes as the team made last year, but they have that fighting spirit that spells victory on the football battlefield. The high school boys are selling tickets for the contest and have advertised it widely in hope of getting a large attendance. The team is absolutely self-supporting and must look to the returns from its games at home to finance it throughout the year. The expense of uniforms and equipment, as well as the expense of bringing the opposing team to Dallas must be borne by the team itself, and the high school students are playing against odds in hoping that the slopes about the field will not be lined with ticketless onlookers at the games this year as they have been before. The students themselves are loyal in support of their team, but complain that so many onlookers enjoy their games without helping in any way to finance the sport. There is nothing to keep spectators away from the game other than the individual sense of right and wrong, but that factor, say the students, will be influence enough to make the usual attendants buy the tickets that are on sale. The game starts at 2:30 tomorrow afternoon.

der will change the players as he sees fit after the game is started and the work of the boys becomes apparent. Neither Rudder nor his team cherish any hope of mounting up such a score against the Mutes as the team made last year, but they have that fighting spirit that spells victory on the football battlefield. The high school boys are selling tickets for the contest and have advertised it widely in hope of getting a large attendance. The team is absolutely self-supporting and must look to the returns from its games at home to finance it throughout the year. The expense of uniforms and equipment, as well as the expense of bringing the opposing team to Dallas must be borne by the team itself, and the high school students are playing against odds in hoping that the slopes about the field will not be lined with ticketless onlookers at the games this year as they have been before. The students themselves are loyal in support of their team, but complain that so many onlookers enjoy their games without helping in any way to finance the sport. There is nothing to keep spectators away from the game other than the individual sense of right and wrong, but that factor, say the students, will be influence enough to make the usual attendants buy the tickets that are on sale. The game starts at 2:30 tomorrow afternoon.

TAX BUDGET DISCUSSED

PROGRESSION TO BE WATCHED BY CITY COUNCIL.

Councilmen Meet Tonight to Act Further on Tentative Cost Sheet for Next Year.

"Keep Moving," was the slogan adopted on Wednesday evening at an informal meeting of the city councilmen, when they met to discuss and prepare a tentative budget of taxation for 1916. The best government that can be maintained, and the most progressive government, within the limitations of conditions and circumstances will be the keynote of action in Dallas next year, and to live up to these ambitions the council is faithfully trying to prepare a suitable expense budget. More work must be done on streets and sidewalks; the street cleaning department needs funds for the purchase of equipment, and there are warrants to be retired. In the face of these things the council is taking its own time to prepare for the conditions by adopting a tentative cost sheet that will not take city taxes beyond all reason, but one that will allow the necessary civic development in connection with the progression of Dallas.

The work done at the meeting on Wednesday was hampered somewhat because the council was not altogether conversant with the new Bingham law which makes it necessary to keep taxes within 6 per cent higher than either of the two preceding years. But from the discussion that was held regarding the general city fund and the road fund, it is the opinion of Mayor Kirkpatrick that the assessment will not be more than 2.5 mills more than that of last year. The general fund assessment will be approximately 7.7 mills, or 4 higher than last year; retiring warrants will cost about 2.3 mills and the road fund will require the amount that can be gained by an assessment of 3.5 mills. The armory will be cleared up this year with a 3 mill assessment if things work according to the plans discussed at this meeting. Other funds covered in the budget will probably remain very much the same as they were last year.

Because they were not conversant with the Bingham law, and desired to stay within the provisions of that law, the council adjourned until tonight and directed the city auditor, Charles Gregory, to confer with the state tax commissioner in the mean time. Mr. Gregory visited that dignitary at Salem yesterday and will be prepared to advise the council regarding the law at the meeting tonight. More detailed discussion will be held tonight, and more conclusive results will be obtained regarding the budget. The tentative budget will be offered to the public after the meeting tonight and next week a public hearing will be advertised to take place in about twenty days. At that time the public will be able to raise the budget if such is found necessary. The public meeting is held more for the purpose of education than any other.

Market Days for Farmers.

Dallas, Eugene, Salem and other valley towns have established farmers' market and sales days. These are splendid movements to bring the farmers to the cities and provide them with markets, but some towns can't see it.—Courier.

Dallas people can see how "splendid" the movement is by the interest that is manifested in the businessmen's meeting at W. O. W. hall tonight. "Some towns can't see it," and others do see it and refuse to become interested. We will see tonight just how far Dallas can "see it."

GIRLS HAVE GAY TIMES

'COVERED DISH' PARTIES FOR ENTERTAINMENT.

Young Women's Section of Club Starts on Season of Activity With Meeting at Library Hall.

The second and fourth Tuesdays of each month have been decided upon by the members of the Young Women's section of the Dallas Woman's club as regular meeting nights for the branch, and, according to another plan revealed at the first meeting, held at the library last week, "Come Over" parties will be a feature of the social activity of this division this winter. The first of these parties will be the entertainment by Misses Rossiter, Sheridan Cartwright and MacDonald at their home next Tuesday evening. The invitation is for a "covered dish" party and each member is to carry her fancy work, in addition to a happy heart, that she may enjoy the evening. These parties are to be the regular club meetings and each evening the girls will bring their basket or covered dish luncheon and enjoy the evening meal at the same time as the meeting. At the first meeting the girls carried basket lunches and hot tea was prepared at the library.

The Young Woman's section is one of the most interesting departments of that organization. It is largely of a social nature, its principal object being to furnish pleasant and profitable recreation for the busy young women of the club, many of whom cannot take advantage of the afternoon sessions of club work, but wish to keep in touch with it and be identified as members of the federation. The Dallas club has received both state-wide and nation-wide recognition and commendation as the originators of this department of club work. During the past year many letters of inquiry have been received from clubs in other cities which were contemplating the organization of such a section and looked to Dallas for guidance.

IS TEAL AN OBSTRUCTIONIST?

Charged With Holding Up Construction of Inter-County Bridge.

There seems to be a general impression on the street that Judge Teal of Polk county, is responsible for the fact that a new bridge will not be built across the Willamette this year. The bridge was inspected the early part of this week by Judge Teal and the commissioners of Marion county and Tax Commissioner Galloway, and notwithstanding the engineers pronounced the bridge unsafe, the construction of a new one, it is stated, was opposed by Judge Teal. With this situation confronting the Marion county court, there is very little prospect of a new bridge, as the law plainly states that both counties must concur in the specifications and cost of construction.—Capital Journal.

In interviews with Judge Teal it has been learned that while he is not adverse to building the bridge if necessity requires immediate action, he holds that if the present structure is not in a dangerous condition it would be better for all concerned to procrastinate. Another year at least. The Polk county court petitioned the state engineer's office to make a test of the physical condition of the bridge and submit a report thereon that other information than that characterized as idle talk might be had relative to its "dangerous condition." The engineers may have pronounced the bridge unsafe, but they have not shown wherein it is unsafe, and this information is most desirable. Judge Teal does not feel inclined to impose a heavy tax upon the property owners of Polk county for the construction of the proposed bridge at this time unless it is absolutely necessary. If the Polk county court is shown where in the inter-county bridge is dangerous to life and property, there can be no question about it concerning in the proposition. Marion county and Salem is very anxious that the bridge be erected, notwithstanding the fact that the present structure has stood most severe tests during the past season, during which time on divers and sundry occasions it has been loaded to the guards with heavy traffic. "There's a reason."

TO FISH IN YAQUINA BAY.

Ardent Sportsmen Forsake Duties for the Call of the Salmon.

Judge Belt and J. C. Hayter left yesterday morning for Newport with abundant hopes and a great stock of sporting goods. The principal idea will be, according to the sportsmen, to catch deep sea fish, but from an antecedent probability there is little doubt but that the many creeks running into Yaquina bay will feel the splash of the tackle of the gentlemen. Salmon trout have a greater lure about them than the deep sea families and they are easier to catch at this time of year. Court matters will rest until the judge returns.